

E. I. Baff.

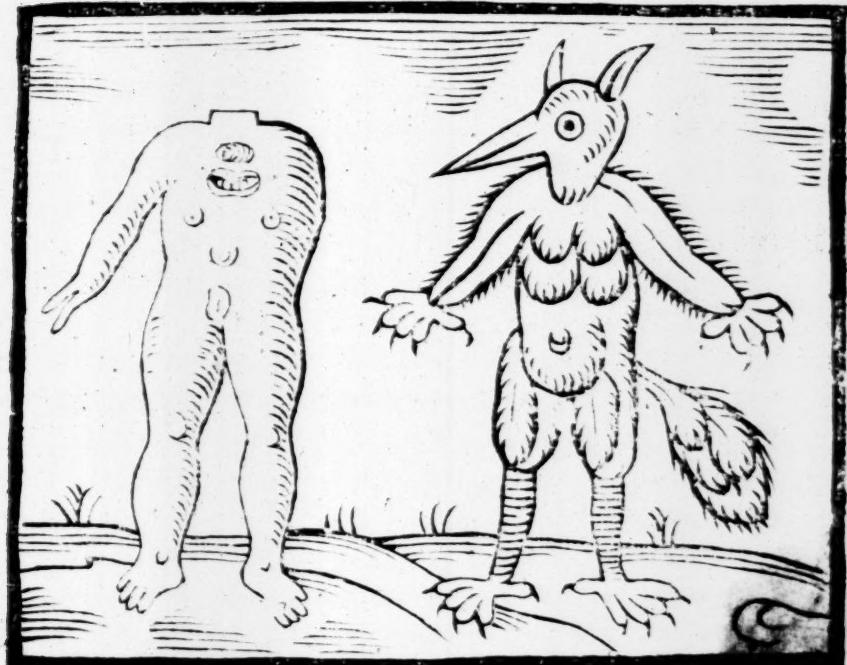
SIBLIOTHECA  
HEBRIANA



# Gods Handy-vvorke in VVONDERS.

Miraculously shewen vpon two Women, lately deliuere of two  
Monsters : with a most strange and terrible Earth-quake, by  
which, Fields and other grounds, were quite  
remoued to other places :

The prodigious births, being at a place called Perre-farme, within a  
quarter of a mile of Feuerham in Kent, the 25. of July  
last, being S. James his day. 1615.



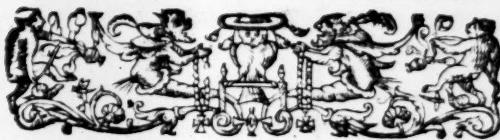
London, Printed for I.W. 1615.



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## TO THE READER.

Entle Reader, here is a liuely description  
of the mercifulnesse of our God, wherin  
thou mayest behold his Fatherly affecti-  
on, shewed vnto vs Christians, in that  
he forewarneth vs to flie from the wrath  
to come , as it appeareth by this picture  
here before thine eyes ; the matter declareth vnto thee, the  
most horrible and strangest birth of a child, that euer was  
heard or seene to bee borne of any Christian woman in  
our dayes : which wonderfull strange newes , God the  
Almighty doth send, to declare vnto vs his wrath, and hea-  
vy displeasure to be at hand , except wee speedily repent,  
and be heartily sorrie for our former wicked life. But let  
our hope bee fully reposed in the comfortable , and most  
sweet promises of the holy Ghost , who pronounceth by  
the mouth of his seruants the Prophets and Apostles, these  
words to our comfort, At what time soeuer a sinner repen-  
teth from the bottome of his heart , I will put all his wic-  
kednesse out of my remembrance, sayth the Lord.

Let not these fearefull and terrible examples terrifie or  
feare thee, gentle Reader ; for all these things, as it is writ-  
ten *Muth. 24.* must needs come to passe , but the end is  
not yet : For Nation shall rise against Nation, and Realme  
against Realme , and there shall bee Famines, Pestilences,  
Thunders, and Earth-quakes in all places, before the terri-  
ble day of the Lord do come , in which day all things, as it  
is written, *1. Thes. 5.* That he shall come as a Theefe in the  
night : yet of his meere mercy doth hee vse these terrible  
fights as a messenger, and fore-teller of his wrath to come:

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For

To the Reader.

For as Saint Paul saith, When they shal say, Peace and safetie, then sodaine destruction commeth vpon them, as sorrow vpon a woman with childe , and they shall not escape in any wise. Therefore let vs not sleepe in security, as others doe, but let vs watch and be sober, for the day of the Lord is at hand; lest sodainly his wrath will come, and in the time of vengeance, he shall destroy vs : From the which, God the Father, for his Sonne Christes sake, deliuere vs.

AMEN.





# GODS WONDERS in WOMEN.

**I**F God had from the Beginning of the world made all creatures beautiful, and in their perfect shape, his glory had not bin so great: but as white sets off blacke, so these contrary colours in the creation of man, sometimes fayre, sometimes deformed, excelle the skill, power, and omnipotency of the great Master, in whose hand it lyes to make a Begger, or a King, a beautifull body, or a monstrous, and to fashion thee or me as vgly, as that wretched shape (whatsoever it be) at which with wonder and loathing thou so often castest an eye, haply of scorne.

Neither are prodigious Birthes (for that is the womb, which now is in labour) simple or meere mistakings in God as if like a bungler in some common trade, he were not his Crafts master: no, hee receiuesth no lesse honour from the shape of a Monster, than from the rarest piece of beautie, that ever was out of earth; no, we are all but one piece of clay, and as the Potter pleases, so are the vessels made, some to base vses, and others to noble: neither is the vessel to repine and aske the workman: Why didst thou make me to no better purpose?

Monstrous birthes are Moales in nature, they are Wens sticking on her cheeke to disgrace her: they are to man and woman mockeries of their pride: for why should either of them with Dives boast of their purple and rich cloathing, when an arme from heauen can strike them, in a moment, unto the leprosie of Lazarus? That face and sozehead which

### Gods wonders in a Woman.

thou paintest for allurement, and so ador'st it with iewels,  
to shew the glory of thy riches , is moulded out of the same  
flesh and bloud, of which a begger is framed , and which gi-  
ueth fashion to a stigmatick, and mishapen creature.

To checke therfore our vicious condition, who are proud  
of that which must rot , and consume with woxines byd out  
of our owne corruption : and to punish the sinnes of some  
particular parents, God from time to time striketh the womb  
of the mother , and doubleth his curse, not onely in making  
her to bring forth with paine and dolour, but to bee deliuere'd  
with fearefull and horrid shapes , to astonish the beholders,  
and affright the sinfull breeders.

What man vnlesse the hammers of hell continually beat  
vpon his heart to harden it) being a father to a son or daugh-  
ter so blasted in the nativity, but would at sight of such a hoy-  
to; fall downe and die with sorrow : or curse himselfe that e-  
uer his finnes were so blacke and monstrous, as to moue the  
Almighty in his wrath to make his body, to be the begetter of  
an ugly Monster ? Say such a childe should liue to call him  
father, how vnpleasing were the sound? The very name of,  
This is my sonne, shoulde presently strike him cold to the heart,  
with, This is my shame ; or rather, This is my sinne : For be  
assured, that albeit women with childe, may by blowes, or o-  
ther misfortunes miscarry in their delivery , and bring In-  
fants into the world maymed in limbes, or deformed in coun-  
tenance , and this cannot chuse but be an unspeakable grieve-  
to the afflicted father and mother ; yet when Gods owne fin-  
gers shall crush the loynes in the wombe, and set his markes  
of fearefull divine vengeance , on the brest of an vnborne  
Babe, to turne it into a Monster, it is without all question, a  
reuenge and punishment for some extraordynary sinnes in  
the Parents. God never gives a sound painment but it is for  
a sure fault : when an Infant is borne dumbe , deafe, or in a  
limbe mishapen, he doth but shake the Rodde ; but when the  
birth is prodigious and beyond Nature, the stripes are deep,  
for then he is angred indeede , and at every such blowe hee  
blawes bloud. Former ages heretofore haue had plentifull de-  
monstrations:

### Gods wonders in a Woman.

monstrations: and these latter dayes of ours are too pregiant in the like examples.

But omitting either of these, I beseech you (Christian Readers) to cast your astonished eyes vpon this late-begotten Object of horrour and misery, lately sent into the World, in Kent, in a place not far from Feversham. For at a Farme called Perre, standing a quarter of a mile from the Towne before named, a pore wayfaring woman beeing great with Child, but not neare her time, seeing the night approaching, slept into an old Barne, there to take by her lodging. Where it pleased God (for the punishment of hers and her husbands sinnes) before her expected hower, to strike her with pynnes, so that there shew fell in labour: And after many terrible throwes of terror and agonies, more then women commonly suffer in such extremities, shew was after many tortures, and tormentes of Soule and body, deliuered of two Children: Twinnes they were, not of gladnes, but of shame and sorrow: not of Motherly embracements, but of affrights and wonder. A brother and sister they were, and yet I know not whether I may so tearing them: but if I could giue these names vnto them, yet never were Brother and Sister so unlike to one another, or to those that did beget them. For the one was a woman perfectly framed in all her limbes, lauing that the body was pyned away, and by that meanes, meagre and leane. But the second insortunate burden that came along with her, was neither a Brother nor a Sister, but Both: for it was an Hermaphrodite; it was neither man nor woman, but such as you might call both man and woman: yet inclining rather to the forme of woman than man, han-somely composed from the Nauill downewards, but a Monster vpwards, and below the knas: for one leg was greater than the other; and either fote had no moze then fowre toes. Head it had none, nor necke, but in the brest stucke out a bunched peece of deformed flesh, whiche like a flap, beeinge to bee lifted vp, it carried vnderneath, the fashon of a mouth with a tongue, and choppes, yet were they neither. Aboue this deformed mouth, grew forth a tuft of hayre, the breadth

### Gods wonders in Women.

of a tesser, and more, and a full inch in bredth: out of the right side, came a thung like an arme, altogether founlesse and with-  
out bones, or the true shape of a hand, having two fingers  
onely, towards either side one. It had no pappes, but prints  
and markes like them in their places. The length of this  
disproportioned creature was 13 inches, and in compasse 15  
inches and a halfe. This was more fat and fleshy than the  
former.

The Father of these infortunate payre of Twynnes, na-  
med himselfe Henrie Haydon: the Mothers name was Mar-  
garet. And being examined of their dwelling, they reported it  
had beeene in Chelmesford in Essex. These prodigious  
Births were sent into the world on the 25. of July now lost  
(being Saint James his day) and were buried at Preston a  
Towne neere Feuerham: to behold whort, so long as their  
bodies rested above earth, thousands of people came from all  
places, the misery of the sad mother, being relieved by much  
moner, which out of Christian compassion, many bestowed  
upon her. GOD graunt that these and such like other  
scarefull demonstrations of Gods anger for our sinnes, may  
call vs home to his fold, from whence worse than monstres  
and wild beasts we wander, to the euerlasting slaughter of our  
Soules; from which the Lord of heauen deliuere vs. Amen.

Another strange wonder at Arnhem, a towne  
in Gelderland the 23. of Januarie. 1615.

**T**his vgly and searefull Monstre was borne the xxiiij.  
of Januarie, in the yeare of our Salvour Iesus  
Christ, a Thousand Sire Hundred and Fiftene,  
an ensample to vs of the great wrath of GOD, be-  
cause of our manifold and great sinnes, which now a daves  
in evry place doth beare sway, as Cursing, Swearing, Blas-  
pheming of GOD, Whoredome, Drunkennesse, and the  
like, the which is truely to bee lamented. And every man  
may let this searefull Monstre or token of God. be vnto him  
a looking glasse, whereby to amend his life, and repente: for  
this

Gods wonder in a Woman.

this birth was very wonderfull, and soene of many credibl persons that doe witnesse hereto, and hath been openly declared, and published throughout the whole Towne of Arnhem, and chaunced as hereafter followeth.

A Citizens wife in the sayd Towne, a comely woman (whose name for certaine causes I let passe) being great with Child, and looked every day, her Husband (being one that had almost spent al his gods amongst whores and theuer) did not leaue the same, but without any regard of his Wife, or her time so neare, followed his naughtie accustomed vse. For he was rather amongst other naughty company, then in his house, or by his wife, which did not a little grieve his wife, who often rebuked him, both with good and bad wordes: all would not helpe, it made him to be more carrie against her, and to vse her so much the worse, the which grieved her very sore. She being now great with Child, (as aforesaid,) upon a tyme her husband accompanied himselfe againe with his compantons and whores, yea in an open house, hee both drunke, daunced and leapt, both night and day, and thus vsed all manner of filthie concupisence with them.

This came to his wifes eare, whereupon she hausing intelligence thereof, was in a great chafe, ranne thither in a furie, told him his owne, and rebuked him for it, and sayd: he shold some thing regard her great belly, and tarry at home, and leaue the compantie of those wicked women, for shee had but small goodnesse at his hands, and hath scarce to eate or drunke at home. Her Husband little regarding her wordes, was in a raging anger, and would haue beat his wife: the company which were in the sayd house, would not suffer him, and sayd, he shold bethinke himselfe better, be more wiser, and not deale in such sorte with his Wife, seeing shee was great with Child, and looked euery day to be brought a bedde. Her husband in his great anger, and vnadvisedly made answere: she may beare the Deuill of hell. His wife on the other side being sore vexed, answered thereto, I would I might beare a Deuill, so shold I once be rid of this woe & miserie, wherewithall thou dost so vex me, for thou wilt by no meanes

## Gods Wonders in Women.

Ieau thy who: hunting, but be alwaies in their companie,  
both drunken and halfe madde, the whiche I wofull woman  
must both heare and see.

Thus after anger she returned hente agayne, and short  
ly after the tyme came: as soon as the neigbours and Mid-  
wife were come, shee begyn for very great paines to cry out  
fearefull, and not long after was brought a bed of this woful-  
lous Monster, with so fearefull proportioned limmes: the  
whiche assoone as the wooman was deliuered thereof, it came  
underneath the bedde. The proportion of his body and lims  
was as hereafter followeth, and was seene of many persons,  
bot men and women, which witnesse the same openly.

First, this Child being a Monster, was ouer his whole  
body very rough with haire, and all blacke, except his belly  
which was like a Swanne.

Secondly, the two feete vpon the whiche it did stand, were  
like to a Peacockes feete.

Thirdly, his eyes were to behold, fearefull, for they shi-  
ned like fire, and were very great.

Fourthly, he had a mouth like vnto a Storcke or Crane,  
altogether blacke and very fearefull to behold.

Fiftly, it had a taile like vnto an Ore.

Sixtly, it had two hornes vpon his head, which hung ou-  
ter hym.

Seuenthly, it had in stede of hands and fingers, clawes  
like vnto a fowle.

In summe it was not found in any poynt like to a Christ-  
ian body: but was very fearefull and horrible to behold.

After that it had now (with great trembling and feare)  
been seene of many men in the towne, and every man astonis-  
te thereat, in the end they smothered it betwixt two beds and  
so killed it.

My brother in Chyff, and Reader hereof, let not this whiche  
is here declared, seeme a fable vnto thee, for this and the like  
wonders, many haue been heard of heere and there, as You-  
sters by Sea, signes in the Ayre, both of men and cattell.

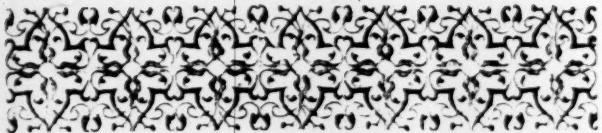
By this we do perceiue and marke, that the Lords com-  
ming

### Gods wonders in Women.

ming is at hand, and that shoulde hereupon will follow  
the iudgement day, whereas we must not onely give ac-  
count of our sinnes, but also of all vaine works, words,  
and deedes. For now a dayes the common sort of peo-  
ple are wholly bent to wicked compaines, whereas is  
cursing, swearing, eating, drinking, breaking of wed-  
locke, and whoresome, like as was with this aforesayd  
man of Arneheim: god people amend your sinfullnes,  
and call to God for grace.

Also this may be a looking glasse vnto every wedded  
woman, whereby to restraine casting out of such unad-  
vised wodes, like as did this aforesayd wife, her time of  
deliuery being so neere, but rather to haue patience, by  
pacisfying her wrath, and committ all matters to almighty  
GOD, that hee may amend all that, which in her  
husband is amisse, also to pray for him, that it wil please  
God so to turne his heart, that he may acknowledg his  
sinnes, and so amend his sinfull life. The almighty  
GOD, wonderfull in his creations, grant vs all his  
grace, that wee may amend our wicked liues, confesse  
his power, and haue everlasting life in Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.





A  
TRVE DISCOVRSE OF THINGS  
happened by an Earthquake, the 1. of March 1615.  
according to the ancient suppitation, in the pla-  
*ces adjoyning to the lake of Geneua, otherwise called*  
Lacus Lemanus: *and especially in the villa-*  
*ges of hic Corbery, and Iuorne, which*  
*are perished.*

**S**pethence that G D speaketh vnto vs by all his  
workes, our duety is, not to passe ouer lightly that  
which he causeth vs to heare: but rather to consi-  
der it so well and attentiuely, that the whole be refer-  
red to that end, vnto the which it appertaineth. He hath  
spoken vnto vs long time spethence, by his holy word,  
published and preached in these latter dayes so faithful-  
ly, that we may say, that those which haue liued before  
vs, doe followe vs in this, very farre off. But alas!  
the moxe he speaketh, the lesse we heare, and the hearts  
which ought to relent, doe ware the more hard; yea in  
steade of yeelding willingly vnto his obedience, there is  
such a rebellion in the most part of men, that a great  
number of them make themselves vtterly vnapt to  
learne.

Neuerthelesse, for all this hee ceaseth not to set be-  
fore vs, that which is to the furtherance of our salua-  
tion, aswell by his promises (whose effects are felt and  
perceiuied in the harts of thōse, which loue him and feare  
him) as by his threatnings, by the which his will is, to  
terrifie

## A Discourse of an Earthquake.

terrifie the hypocrites contemners of his Maiestie , the more to increase their condemnation. Indede, if being admonished, th:catned and corrected, they shall perseuer in their wickednesse, without doubt. God will continue his iustice, and display his true and leuere iudgement in this world, to the continuance of it euerlastingly in the world to come. It is most certaine, that on what side soever a man turneth himselfe, he may perceue the signes of the wrath of God, ingrained in al his creatures, whose age and weare in the seruice of men, in their corruption, requireth nothing more then to be delinued from the oppression whiche they feele, th:rough the wickednesse of such as abuse them, in dishonouring God, and following their wicked will.

The heauens are witnesse, the ayre , the water, and the earth creyeth nothing else. The plagues and infiuite diseases, which haue almost vipeopled the whole world, be are witnesse hereof. The forren and euill warres which haue destroyed, and doe yet destroy the earth, doe declare it. The deathes and famines which haue brought, and do bring to ruine many realms, doe shew the like. Neuerthelesse they laugh, and mocke, no lesse then in the daies of Noe , whereas they shold rather prepare the Arke to saue themselues, when as the flood of the lake and eternall iudgement shall light upon all creatures : for it seemeth to be euuen already at hand. This Arke is vnsained repenteance , which hauing the true feare of God for the foundation, causeth men to be grieved and sorowfull for their wickednesse past, with carefull and most earnest studie of well doing , for the time to come. To this repenteance God doth call vs, by sundry and dthers waves, especially by the signes afore tolde by our Saviour Iesus Christ, in the 24. Chap. of Saint Mathew , which signes in these later daies, hee dayly setteth before vs as fore runners of his glorious comming.

A discourse of an Earth-quake.

Now our meaning is not, to speake of things hap-  
pened far hence, or long sithence, neither of impesitions  
or sights scene in the ayre within these few Moneths,  
such as are burning flaminis, the Sun doubled, yea tri-  
pled, or yet of thundring or lightning in the middest of  
winter: but onely of the Earth-quake happened the first  
of March, 1615. according to the ancient Almanack  
in the countreys of Lyonois, Masconois, Dauphin, Sa-  
uoy, Piedmont, Valles, Swysse, and Burgonny. Nor  
yet to discourse of the causes and effects thereof, as the  
naturall Philosophers, according to their profession, are  
wont to doe: but to warne every one, that seeing the  
earth shakeith, we may take occasion every one of vs ge-  
nerally, and particullarly, to be affraide and quake in  
our hearts, considering the multitude of sinnes, which  
ouerwhelme vs in this cursed time and extreme olde  
age of the world: And also that it is not here beneath  
that we must looke for our assurance, seeing that there is  
nothing firme or stable but aboue in heaven. For as  
Histories walme vnto vs, there haue selidome beeene  
such signes, but that there haue followed shortly after  
most great and cruell calamities, common and generall  
to all estates. And not to speake of thinges besafne  
elsewhere, wee will briefly touch such things as are  
chansed in these quarters neare to the lake Lemanius,  
leaving unto others, to doe the like of that which happe-  
ned to every one in his Countrey.

The 1. of March 1615. halfe an houre before 12. of  
the day, the skie being most cleare and faire, the Sunne  
shining, all sodainely came the Earthquake, which  
lasted not aboue 10. or 11. minutes by the clocke, so  
that one tyme. It was especially perceived by the clac-  
keting of the windowes, and cracking of the houses,  
shaking of trees, and stony walles, with a great noyse  
and hollow sound in the ayre.

In many places there fell downe chimnies, the  
walles

## A Discourse of an Earthquake.

walles rased and riven , as amoungst the rest at a towne called Bonne in Fussigny , at Thonon, Euyan, S. Mauris in Chablage , Lautanne , Morges , and many other places .

At Geneva fell downe thre or fourre chimnes , and a stone wall of an olde building , without any other extraordinary thing chauncing : such is the singular preuidence of God . Although one hath most falsoly publisched (at which bee may tremble and blush) for shame ; to have bee so manerly in feigning ) which bee hath written of the blacknesse of the Lake , whiche sayth to haue haue the Saturday before : Item , of the walles and houses du bour de four , and of the continuance of the Earthquake for the space of two houres long , which was often renewed with whire windes . But to retorne to our matter , not farre from thence thers haue beeene other accidents , no lesse lamentable then memorabile .

For vpon Sunday being the second of March , the said Earth-quake renewing his force in the places of the higher side of the Lake , and beeinge redoubled the Tuesday following , both at morning and at night , with windes and snowe , chanced that which followeth , in a place subiect to the Souereignty of Berne , distant from the said side of the Lake two houres iourney , from a Towne called Aille , about fourre gunne shottes : and this happened the Wednesday following , being the fourth of March , betwixt nine and tenne of the clocke in the morning . A great quantitie of earth rowling (even as it were a huge streme of raging water , falling from the toppe of a most high Rocke ) from the tops of the Mountaines , glaunced a farre off , and as some say about one league , the which was not so much by the naturall motion , (which is from a high place vnto a lowe) as being driven by windes and exhalations mingled amongst it .

This

A discourse of an Earth-quake.

This earth was so driven, that in one instant it covered the places neere the valley, vpon the which it fell, and in carrying before it all the earth that it mette, the same was cleane taken away, the which was more easilie brought to passe, by reason that it was moued by the Earthquakes & stirring winds, aswell as the first earth which drue it: so that it chaunced in this, as commonly we see vpon the lake or tempestuous See, whereas one wave is violently driven by an other. The discent & valley did not onely adioyne themselves vnto it, but that which is most strange, the little hilles vpon low places, and the valleynes were shaked likewise. There is furthermore to be noted, that the place wher this remouing was, is right against a Cliffe caused by many hilles and hye places, that are commonly whereas the rockes of the hilles mette and touch together. Duer against, in the issue of this Clyffe, was the higher side of Cozbery, a little village or hamlet, containing about 8. houses, 25. barnes, & 3. water milles. The earth fell from aboue vpon the said village so violently, that in a moment all was couered, one house excepted, whereas a thing most worthy to bee marked, chanced. The master of the said house, being astonied and amazed, through the exceeding great noyse, which he heard, said to his wife, he did verily beleue the end of the world to bee come, and that it was necessary to pray to GOD to haue mercy on them. Whereupon without delay knee-ling downe in their house, they perceiued such fruit and profit of their prayers, that the earth which rowled as is aforesayd, passed ouer their house in a manner as a huge wave, without any harme to the house, or any within it, sauing that, the Master having his hat pearced, was hurt in the head. As concerning the other houses and barnes, they were all thrown downe, and almost couered with earth. There chanced also in the sayd place, another thing not to bee omitted, that is to say,

## A discourse of an Earthquake.

say, a child of a quarters age was found safe and aline in the cradle (as he is yet, thankis be to G D D) haung his mother found dead by him. The manner of it was this, the mother vpon the noise of the house falling, see king to saue her Child, clasped the cradle in her armes, wherewith all the house fell, and shs most pittifullly bru sed, was found dead, the Child being aline and safe, as is aforesayd. The like befell to a maid child of a yeere old, which was found whole and alive among the ruines of a house. As touching the water milles, they were all broken, and in one of them happened another strange thing: for being very low situated, the arcltree with the whalle, were found whole together in the top of a hill, which was higher then the sayd Mill 500. paces or steppes. The number of men which perished in this Village 29. of Warres 25. water milles 2. of yeere lyrenenes or Farmes within the towne, called in latine, Praedia Vibana 7. of Clines 23. acres : of tunnes of Wine 82. of Peate, Bullocks and Calues 81. of horses, mares and colts 16. of sheape 73.

The lower the earth discended, the moe this mis happe increased: for falling vpon the next village, called Luorn, which was lower, and at the fote of the hill, whereupon the sayd Cerbery stood, there perished of men 93. or a 100. persons, (some affirme moe) of houses 62. barnes 101. falling milles 3. of Clines 39. Acres : of Tuns of Wine 236. of Peate 166. of calues 112. Horses and Mares 43. Sheape 168. also great abundance of Corne, all kind of fodder for Cattell, with great quantity of household stufse: to bee briefe, this Village was well furnished with all kins of things, and was esteemed one of the best in all these quarters.

The situation of it was vpon a discent not steepe, but slope and stretched out from the East to the West. The ground was so fertill, that they received every yeare 3. crops, as Wheat, Pillot, & Turnops. Furthermore, a

## A Discourse of an Earthquake.

mongst them were neither poore, nor begger, but euer  
ry one euen to the very least, lived on their goods and  
labour, beeing a people very thriving and painfull,  
bord of all evill practices, as vsurie, contentions and  
suits, as all their neighbours doe witnesse of them.

It is said also, that the aforesaid falling of the earth,  
was so sudden, that no pellet out of any gunne could be  
more swifte, then all this said remouing was past. O  
ther report, that a farre off they beheld about 20. per  
sons, the most being women, and children, whiche com  
ming downe a hill to saue themselves, were overtaken,  
and ouerwhelmed with the sayd falling of the earth.

The most that perished were women and Children,  
by reason that most of the men were at labour in the  
fields. In this great affliction, GOD hath vsed  
such mercy, that of every household, some were saued,  
either men or Children. Moreover, besides the most  
fearefull and terrible confusion, which the falling of the  
earth caused, beeinge mingled with great stones that  
mounted in the ayre, there was seuerall infinite sparkles  
of fire, with a great and darke cloud, from the which did  
procide a most strong smel of Brimstone.

At the length the earth staled it selfe, ioyning toge  
ther 2. houses, whiche are at this present time standing  
whole, laden on one side with earth, to the halfe heighth  
of the walles, without any other hurt: besides these,  
there remaineth yet 7. or 8. houses, with as many  
barnes and other country houses.

The length of this discent is from the toppe of the  
mountaine, vnto the 2. sayd houses. The bredth is of  
12. Arpanes, the depth is in some places lesse then in  
some other: towards the side it is about two mens depth.  
It is a marueilous thing, that in all this discent so  
extended, whereas the houses were, it is so plaine,  
that it sequmeth as a portion of earth beene newlly tilled  
and harrowed, without any appearance of the ruine of

the

### A discourse of an Earth-quake.

the sayd houses, no more then if there never had beene any : and that which is more, few or no stones are to be seene. From the place where the remouing tooke his beginning, unto the 2. houses, where it rested, it is all as but one ruine, where there is but one house to bee seene.

In Aille the middle rofe tiles of the Church fell downe, without that any other moued. Not farre from this place fell a rocke downe from a hill, the which was stayed in a cliffe of the said hill, without any hurt. Many chunneis fell downe, many walles were riuen, by reason of the reiteration of the earthquake, vpon sundry daies. Hard by a place called Morteru, the Lake hath exceeded his ordinary breedth twenty paces, hauing carried away a portion of a Wine-yard, the which they say was swallowed vp by opening of the earth.

Some say, that at a Towne called Ville Neufue and in other places, adiourning vnto the same, the Earthquake was so violent, that whole tunnes of wine were raised vpon their end. At Veuey many chunneis were cast downe, many houses loosenes, and amongst the vines de l'Auau, certaine walles were ouerthowne. The Magistrates of Bearne, in whose souerainte these sayd things happened, haue appointed men, or officers to looke and prouide for those men, that yet liuing haue lost their friends and substance.

Now let euery man judge of these things, as the feare of God shall direct him. It is well knowne what the Philosophers doe affirme to bee the causes of such Earth-quakes ; but if one doe weigh the diuersity of their opinions, it will bee found that we must seeke hy-  
er for the causes her eof, then in the Starres, fire, waters, vapours, exhalations and windes included in the bowels of the earth, to the which they cleave full fast : And that we may come vnto the cause touched by the Prophete, In the 114. Psalms, where he sayth: Before

### A discourse of an Earthquake.

the face of the Almighty the earth leaped, as the start  
Ranunes in the fieldes, and the hilles like trembling  
Lambes.

Furthermore, to judge of thole whom God hath so  
visited, we must remember, that it doth onely apper-  
taine unto God, to whom the iudgement must be left,  
without concluding, that those of Iuorne were greater  
sinners then we, according to that which our Sauour  
Jesus Christ teacheth vs, in the thirteenth Chapter of  
Saint Luke, speaking of the Galileans, whose blood  
Pilate had mingled with the sacrifices, and of those vpon  
whom the Tower of Sylo fell: bat we must per-  
suade our selues that except we do repente, we shal like-  
wise perish. God is not vnjust, but contrariwise his  
woorkes are as a bottomlesse pit, unsearchable to men,  
into the which we ought never to enter, but to stay our  
selues in worshipping with reverence his incompre-  
hensible wisedome. Surely, if we doe not condenne all  
those, which were drowned by the waters of the flood;  
neither all those which were destroyed by the fire falling  
vpon Sodome, and other places adioyning vnto it ( for  
there were many children innocent in the transgres-  
sion of the aged ) : farre lesse ought we to have an euill  
suspcion of thole, which were not so giuen to sinne as  
other men.

Laodicea, Colossi, and Hieropolis were overwhel-  
med by an Earthquake. In Asia first fourteene Cities,  
and sithence twelve. In Thracia 11. and in Affrica one  
hundred haue bene destroyed by Earthquakes hereto-  
fore. Nicodemia, Antiochia, Alexandria, Constantino-  
ple, and other places infinite haue bene hazarded by  
Earthquakes. And who shal say, that so many condem-  
ned places as were then in the world, shoulde rather haue  
escaped; then the places aforesaid? Certainly, if  
God shoulde haue respect vnto the sinnes of men, one vil-  
lage shoulde not haue felt his wrathfull hand: but all the  
world,

### A discourse of an Earthquake.

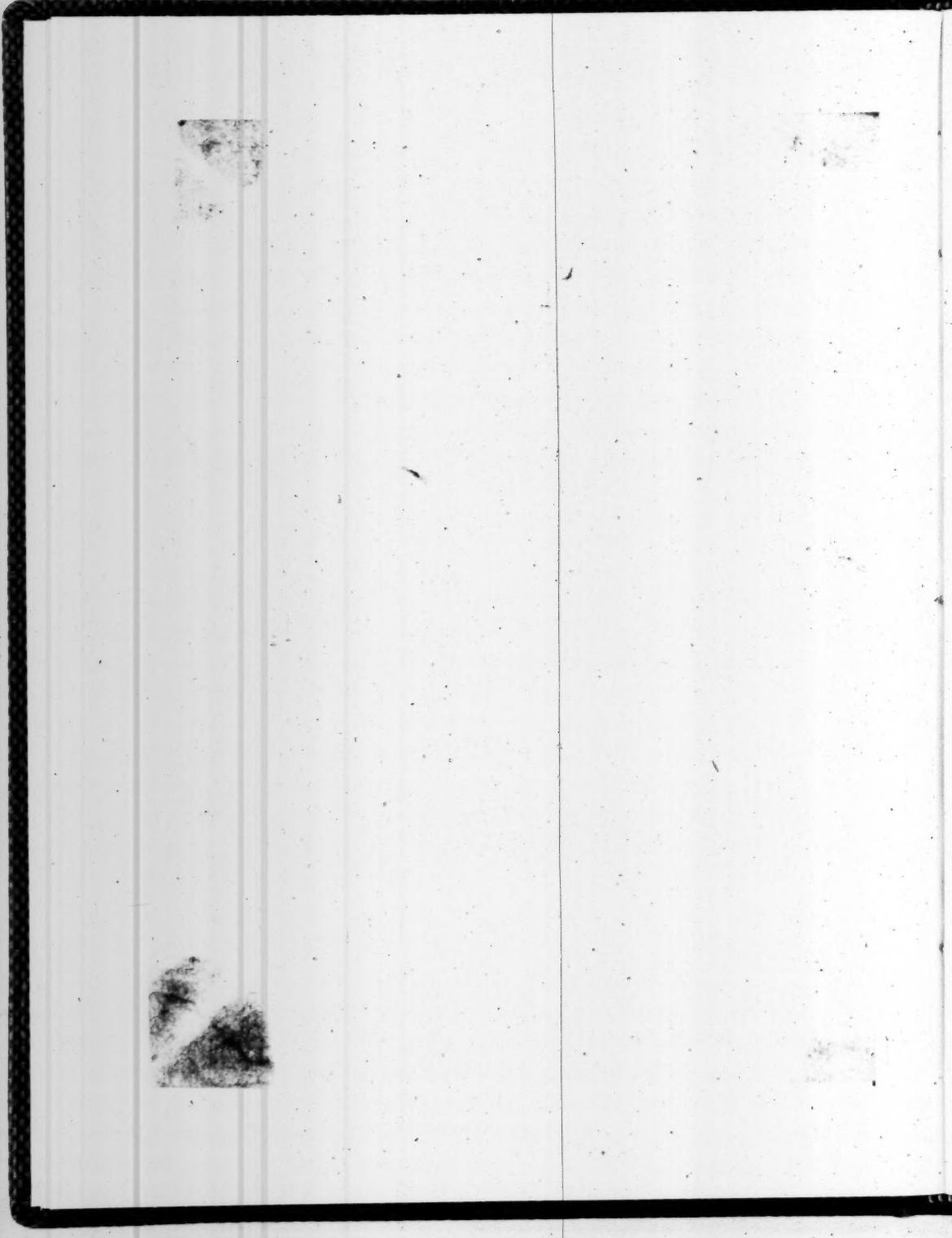
world, especially the great Cities, whereas the great and wicked sinnes bee, and the most fearefull sinnes committed. But it pleased God, to beate the Dogge before the Lyon, to punish the least sinners before the greatest, to cut downe the naturall Olyne, before the wilde, and the greene wood before the feare.

Let vs then wonder at the great patience of God, that beareth so much with this world, and let vs so account of his wisedome, that it be hereafte to haue recourse to his mercie, the which I pray him, that he will vouchsafe to shewe vs, through Jesus Christ, his onely Sonne, our Lord and Mediator.

S. Augustine.

*Mieux vaut le tremblement des humbles,  
que l'affarance des orgueilleux.*  
Better is the trembling of the lowly,  
then the assurance of the proud.

F I N I S.



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